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The Senator's Little Joke

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When Senator Milton R. Young of North Dakota wrote in a report letter to his constituents that some of the most valuable CIA operatives were highly placed Communists we hope he was having his little joke and not divulging vital information.

The senator is one of six members of Congress who know the inner workings of the Central Intelligence Agency. If he was revealing secrets he is deserving of censure. We prefer to believe he was playing a joke, either on his own or with the knowledge of the CIA.

The statement created a mild furor in the United States and it probably has caused a storm behind the Iron Curtain. To state baldly that the best CIA operatives were highly placed Communists is akin to sounding an alarm. By this time dossiers have been taken from the files and studies are in progress for clues as to the guilty.

As noted, if this is a game, all well and good. It may deepen the distrust which seems to be routine in the lives of Communists. If it damages Red unity, so much the better. There is no way of determining the exact truth but we continue to hope the Senator was not the victim of a wagging tongue.